

SOCIETY CHAT.

Nobody knows just what Benjamin Harrison, Jr., thought on Christmas Eve when all the glories of the Christmas tree flashed upon him. He and little Mary stood in speechless, open-eyed wonder, too full of astonishment for utterance. The tree stood in the southwest corner of the pretty oval room upstairs which is called the library. It was resplendent with light from many a waxen taper, reflected from silver and gold ornaments on the tree. The tree was a cedar, nearly ten feet high, and gracefully proportioned. The wonderful fruit it bore was enough to make any little one speechless with wonder and delight, as these children were. There were lovely talking dolls and all the toy furniture for housekeeping to delight little Mary's heart and, true to feminine nature, she found her voice first as she clutched a "pretty baby" in her arms. Benjamin does not talk half as much as his sister, or so much as he used to. He just looks and thinks. A train of cars with a locomotive attached—such a train as had the boys of his age in hamlet homes rejoiced in, is his favorite toy. And he at once ignored many finer things to play "go to New York" with the steam cars on the tree. He acts the jolly little engineer, conductor, and train-master in one. The family, grouped about these little toddlers, found their sweetest Christmas cheer in seeing these babies enjoy themselves. Mrs. McKee did not prolong the evening hours for the little ones. By 9 o'clock they were tucked in bed and sound asleep. On Friday morning Mrs. McKee began to put away some of the finer toys for future use. A child can get only a limited amount of happiness into playtime, and too many toys cloy even upon baby appreciation. As those toys in use go to pieces those in reserve are brought out by Mrs. McKee and liked all the better for their novelty. The Harrison report was conducted to the nursery to see the children at play with some of their new toys. Benjamin has put on boyish ways since this time last year. He now wears Scotch plaid "kilts," with a loose, white shirt showing between his jacket front. He was on the floor making the New York express up for a trial trip, with a locomotive at each end of the train to "push 'em to the snore." Little Mary was tending a new doll, putting her to bed in a bed almost big enough for herself. While she made Dolly's night toilet she sat on the bed. Both these little ones are as plump as partridges, but Mrs. McKee says "I will persist in catching cold with every change of the weather." Both Benjamin and Mary have a German nurse, and they can already roll the gutters under their baby tongues in a most astonishing manner. Benjamin with a little coaxing from nurse, stood up and recited a nursery rhyme in German, with a comical little bow at the close that was quite taking. The other nurse, who is a kindergarten, amuses the children with symbols and instruction in childish things. The nursery is on the southwest side of the building—a very modest sized room. It has an open fireplace, a lounge is under one window, and the other windows have baby play-houses in their deep recesses. A wardrobe, bureau, and chiffonier of cherry with low chairs completes the appointment of this home-like nursery of the President's grandchildren. Criticism seems almost captious, yet why give empty purses as gifts to those who have nothing to put in them.

At Stratmore Arms on Christmas night it was not the traditional wedding bells that clanged out joyously at 6 P. M., but the more prosaic dinner bell that called a gay company of bachelors and their friends to a feast that began with turtle soup and included all the Christmas dishes from roast turkey and game to plum pudding, and ended with all the toothsome dainties imaginable. The tables were set in the form of an "L" in the dining hall, and it was a very pretty sight when the guests gathered about them. After the dinner was served the room was cleared, chairs brought in, and Mrs. Lockwood Prudhoe proceeded to open her "D. L. Academy," which translated into English, means the developed late school, as each "miss" in school had reached the mature age of anywhere from forty to sixty, and the infant class was composed of such dear little dimpled darlings as "bud" between the ages of sixteen and twenty. The "get-up" of these children of this ancient and modern academy was wonderful, and would have graced professionals in some extravaganza on the theatrical boards. There were three selectmen present to add dignity to the occasion. They also presented the diplomas, tied with blue ribbons, to the graduates. These selectmen being all of the Quaker persuasion, the spirit did not move them to speak while performing that important ceremony, and the diplomas were given out in solemn silence. This academical commencement was a unique performance in every way. A more diversified and side-splitting programme it would be hard to find. The pupils all came off with high honors—from Congressman Van Shaick, who belonged to the infant class and sang "Baby Mine" with unction, to the class in composition, which was led by Miss Snow. Miss Snow followed on that school-girl theme, "Spring," and Mrs. G. Crandall on "Headache." Then came the recitations, in which Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Hort distinguished themselves. Mrs. Leggett sang a pathetic ballad, while Mrs. Stowe, as a graduate of the academy thirty years ago, sang a song for which she was at the time almost expelled from school. Now it is considered a most fetching aria, and the rendition covered the prima donna with glory. The secret society connected with the academy, the "fly beaters," quite took the palm. The bagpipe duet between Mrs. Prudence and Bridget Mahoney was followed by the Highland Fling by Mrs. Rixford, whose dancing was exceedingly graceful, considering she had not practiced for five years. The infant class evinced after the most approved kindergarten methods under Miss Snow as teacher. Congressman Kerr preferred not to pose on the comedy side of the programme, hence he gave a recitation on "Ambition." Mr. Pickett, of the National Guard, acted the part of drum major in full uniform, and the school orchestra, consisting of mouth organs, whistles, and such stringed and wind instruments, were kept in admirable time and tune by his handling of the baton. After school was out the floor was cleared for dancing by the belles and beaux of the infant class, while the graduates sat down to a late supper in the private rooms of the teacher, Mrs. M. S. Lockwood.

Mrs. and Miss Breckinridge entertained a large number of friends at a 5 o'clock tea on Friday evening at their home on Connecticut avenue.

Mrs. Porter has arrived from Fort Niobrara and will spend the winter with her parents, Colonel and Mrs. J. D. Wilkins, of 1233 G street.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Augustus Williams and Miss Williams, of New London, Conn., are established in their residence, 1301 Eighteenth street.

Miss Amy Winter, of New Brighton, Pa., a lovely brunette, is spending the holidays with Miss May Harsh at 505 H street northwest.

Professor J. A. Sewall, of the University of Denver, and Mrs. Sewall are guests of Doctor and Mrs. Vasey, of No. 1307 Riggs street.

Mrs. John Walsh has returned from St. Louis to the Arlington, where she expects to remain through the winter.

The Misses Lillie and Carrie Kelly, of Baltimore, are visiting Mrs. A. F. Hilyer, of No. 2352 Sixth street.

General and Mrs. Oakes and Miss Daisy Oakes are in their customary winter quarters at the Elburt.

One of the most enjoyable entertainments of the week was that given by the Young People's Union of the Universalist Church, on Tuesday evening, at their church. They secured the services of the Glee and Banjo Club of Tuft's College, and the collegians rendered some of the most enjoyable college music ever heard here. The solos by Messrs. Weeks, Small, and Hawkins were excellent, while the banjos, and mandolins were played with a dash and spirit seldom heard. Among the mandolin players was Mr. Ben Cunningham, of Boston, who has a well-established reputation in that section as a player. The collegians were the recipients of much social attention while here.

The many friends of Señor Salvador de Mendonça will be greatly pleased at his appointment as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from Brazil to the United States, thus insuring the continued residence in the Capital of one of the most charming families in the Diplomatic Corps. It was feared at one time that Mr. Mendonça would accept a Cabinet appointment tendered him by the Brazilian government, but Mr. Mendonça declined, on the plea that his health would not permit of a constant residence in Brazil. Mr. and Mrs. Mendonça will probably return to Washington during the month of January.

Mr. J. S. Duvall, proprietor of the Franklin, gave a handsome supper on Christmas night to his guests and their friends. Among others present were Maj. Baldwin, of the Army, and Mrs. Baldwin; Miss Emma Baldwin and Mr. Theodore Baldwin, Mrs. Daniel Weisel and Miss Hattie Weisel, Judge Chipman, of Michigan; Capt. Thomas McDougall, of the Army, and Mrs. McDougall; Major and Mrs. Farrar, Gen. Gonzales, Gen. Brown, of Indiana; Mrs. Herndon, Miss Maize Herron, Mr. and Mrs. Hancock, of Virginia; Judge Holderman, Mrs. and Miss Byers, Mr. Phillips, Miss Weel, and Miss Cook.

Miss Caroline Ransom, the artist, seems to be in the enjoyment of a run of luck, having only recently sold a fine picture entitled "A Fair View from the White House," and has since received an order for a duplicate from another party. She has also disposed of the "Cherubs," copies from Raphael's Sistine Madonna, for three hundred dollars. All these sales have been to people who have but recently returned from Europe.

The marriage of Mr. R. Minor Moncre, of Stafford County, Va., and Miss Lydia Hunt, of this city, took place on Tuesday evening at the residence of Col. Syme, on East Capitol street, in the presence of the families of the high contracting parties. The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. John Moncre, of Gallipolis, Ohio.

Miss Courtney Walthall announced her debut by a very beautiful pink luncheon on Tuesday. The guests were the Messrs. Gorman, Breckinridge, Payne, Jones, Gardale, McMillan, Hutchinson, Denver, Stockdale, MacDonald, Ayer, Fleming, Colquitt, Plain, Riggs, Blackburn, Butler, Mills, and Greenleaf.

Miss Sanger, the President's stenographer, wears the needle as deftly as she takes down a stenographical report. She made a lovely sash silk slip and a lace and cobweb muslin dress to wear over it, with the daintiest hemstitched hems, for a Christmas present to her little favorite, Mary Lodge McKee.

On Tuesday evening Miss Lillian R. Proctor and Mr. J. F. Birrell were married in Alexandria by Rev. Dr. Poisel. The ceremony took place in the Methodist Protestant Church, and was witnessed by a large company of friends of the high contracting parties.

Miss Emma Conrad, daughter of Professor T. N. Conrad, left the city early in the week for Blacksburg, Va., to wait on Miss Otey, daughter of Dr. Otey, who was married on the 23d instant to Col. J. Hampton Hoge, of Governor Fitz Lee's staff.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cutts Channson, of Cleveland, Ohio, are at the Arlington. They have but recently returned from an extended European trip. They will probably remain in Washington during the season.

General and Mrs. Veazey and Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Walton are located at 1502 H street northwest for the winter, and have as their guest Miss Elizabeth Smith, of Salisbury, Vt.

Mrs. Eugene Van Rensselaer gave a very beautiful and elaborate dinner on Christmas evening to a number of young people, among whom were the Messrs. Pauncfote.

A Story of Mrs. Harrison.
Detroit News New York Letter.

While in Washington the other day I heard a story about Mrs. Harrison. A young woman, the orphan daughter of a once famous literary man, brought a letter of introduction to John Wanamaker. It was a simple request that the Postmaster General would assist the young woman in seeing Mrs. Harrison, because she wanted to use her name for a fair that she was getting up and which at that moment did not look very promising. Mr. Wanamaker left a room full of gentlemen discussing a post-office matter to take the young woman kindly by the hand, pat her on the cheek affectionately, as is his custom, and then with a hurried excuse he left the Department, pushed the young woman into a cab, and drove to the White House. Mr. Harrison treated the young woman very considerately and promised that he would use his influence with his wife to attain the object the visitor was after.

"Why not go and see Mrs. Harrison now about it?" said Mr. Wanamaker.

"Good idea," said the President; "let us go." And the three started off together to find the President's wife.

It was near lunch hour, and Mrs. Harrison warmly invited the entire party to join her at lunch. The young woman was much surprised at her cordial reception, as well she might have been, for she expected she would have to wait a few days in Washington before an opportunity would present itself to even see the President's wife. After luncheon was over Mr. Harrison whispered something in his wife's ear, and left the two women together. They chatted for half an hour on the subject, and while at first Mrs. Harrison demurred against taking the prominent part in the fair matter that her visitor wished her to take, she finally consented, and once more surprised the girl by saying: "As you are a stranger in Washington, I will take you around with me for a drive this afternoon."

And so it came that the President's wife and the young woman drove for a couple of hours through the streets of Washington, and finally in the early twilight the President's carriage drove up to the small hotel at which the young woman was stopping, and she was deposited there, the happiest being in the world.

A Swindled Coyote.
The Oregonian.

The Eureka flat country abounds in wild geese and the hunters are having fine sport. The geese swarm in the stubble-fields to eat the scattered heads of wheat and the hunters dig pits in these fields and lie in them, having first set out a number of tin or pasteboard decoys to attract the geese. A hunter named Adkins, a day or two since, while sitting in a pit waiting for geese, saw a coyote sneaking down on his decoys. The cunning brute crept along for fifty feet and then made a spring of about twenty feet, landing on top of one of the tin decoys. He was the most disgusted-looking coyote ever seen in that section, and Adkins felt so sorry for him that he shot him.

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Our stock is large and we find it necessary to reduce it—turn it into cash. Prices, and that alone, will accomplish our object, so if you peruse our list below carefully you will find something you want, and that something will be at a wonderfully low figure.

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Cloaks First.

We are anxious to turn this stock into money, so we offer the following at marked prices. You know how low they are marked.

Any garment under \$6,
\$1.50 ON.
Any garment between \$7 and \$10,
\$3 ON.
Any garment between \$11 and \$15,
\$4 ON.
Any garment between \$16 and \$20,
\$5 ON.
Any garment over \$20,
\$7.50 ON.

Think of buying a \$21 cloak for \$13.50, and in most cases such a garment is marked elsewhere \$23 to \$25. This offer includes every garment in the house—Jackets, Wraps, Newmarkets, Children's Goods, and Fur Capes.

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The above offer on fur capes is immense. Think of it. It will bring a fine Sable Cape marked \$25 down to \$17.50. Ten per cent off on our entire stock of Muffs and Furs.

A sale of millinery that will surprise you. We have a big stock, consequently a big assortment, and they must go.

Everybody knows the quality of our Wool Hats at 60c; they must go at 25c.

And French Felt Hats—we sold them all along at \$1.20, others sold them at \$2. Your choice now at
50c.

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Birds and Fancy Feathers that are marked less than 50c.,
At 17c.

Birds and Fancy Feathers from 50c. to \$1.
Now 39c.

Plaid Ribbons that sold at 50c., to-morrow at
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BAKED FISH.		
Halibut,	Rock Fish,	Sea Trout,
Brown Sauce.		
BOILED FISH.		
White,	Pike,	Haddock,
Bass, Cream Sauce.		
BOILED MEATS.		
Corned Pork and Turnips,	Leg of Lamb,	
Caper Sauce.		
ROAST MEATS.		
Turkey and Cranberry Sauce, Beef, Lamb, Veal,		
Pork, Pork and Beans, New York style.		
ENTREES.		
Loin of Lamb,	Mint Sauce,	Club-house Pie,
Palace and Veal Pot Pie.		
VEGETABLES.		
Boiled and Mashed Potatoes,	Stewed Tomatoes,	
Corn, Rice.		
DESSERT.		
Apple, Peach, Pumpkin, Custard, Sweet Potato,		
Blackberry, Rhubarb, and Huckleberry Pies.		
PUDDINGS.		
Sago and Vanilla,	Dyan and Brandy Sauce,	
Cabinet and Wine Sauce.		

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R st, near 14th, a. m. l.....7,400
S st, near 15th, a. m. l.....6,500
637 T st nw, a. m. l.....6,000
1514 Columbia st, a. m. l.....6,000
15th st ne, a. m. l.....4,000
1219 C st se, 6 rooms.....3,500

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1013 10th st, b. h, m, 1, 10 rs.....\$15,000
2730 M st, b. h, 14 rs.....10,000
1338 15th st, f. h, 6 rs and 4 houses rear.....10,000
1421 Boundary, f. h, m, 1, 8 rs.....7,100
381 st, b. h, m, 1, 11 rs.....6,500
1116 T st, b. h, 7 rs.....6,000
805 6th st, b. h, m, 1, 8 rs.....4,750
3255 K st, b. h, 10 rs.....3,000
1132 20th st, b. h, 8 rs.....1,500
Alley bet. 21st and 22d, M and N sts, b. h, 6 rs.....1,500

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448 1 st, b. h, 5 rs.....1,800
924 G st, f. h, 5 rs.....1,500
1028 S Cap st, b. h, 5 rs.....1,300
Alley, 41 and 43, H and I st, f. h, 4 rs.....900
613-15-17 Burke's Alley, f. h, 4 rs each.....900
Rear of 334 E st, f. h, 4 rs.....600

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Q st bet 15th and 19th.....2.75
10th st bet M and N sts.....1.75
7th st bet R and S.....1.75
24th st bet L and M sts.....1.50
Florida ave bet N Cap and O sts.....1.50
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1017 22d st nw, 9 rs.....32 50
1519 8th st nw, 9 rs.....31 50
Upper pt 1408 P st nw, 7 rs.....30 00
301 L st nw, 7 rs.....28 50
3322 Prospect ave nw, 7 rs.....26 00
2720 M st nw, 14 rs.....25 00
1300 41 st sw, 12 rs.....25 00
810 N H ave nw, 6 rs.....22 50
930 E Cap st ne, 6 rs.....20 00
2004 E st nw, 6 rs.....20 40
1247 31st st ne, 9 rs.....20 00
Upper pt 58 H st nw, 6 rs.....20 00
1135 19th st nw, 8 rs.....19 00
611 1 st ne, 6 rs.....15 00
80 Myrtle st ne, 7 rs.....12 00

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